

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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JUN 17 1988

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Napier, Richard C., House
other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number Old Highway 48 NA not for publication
city, town Charlotte x vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Dickson code TN043 zip code 37036

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Iron Industry on the Western Highland
Rim 1790s-1920s

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Herbert L. Byrge
Signature of certifying official

6/7/88
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

- ☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:)

Amy Schlagel
Signature of the Keeper

7/26/88
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

walls Brick

roof Tin

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Constructed circa 1800 by Richard Napier, Senior, the father of ironmaster Richard C. Napier, this house is a simple two story Federal style brick building. The house is located north of Charlotte (pop. 788), the Dickson County seat, and near Bartons Creek. Distinguishing features include symmetrical proportions, jack arch lintels, walnut doors, and original mantels.

The Napier house is rectangular in plan with a twentieth century frame addition at the northwest (rear) elevation. Brick walls are eighteen inches thick and rest on a limestone foundation. Situated beneath the standing seam tin gable roof are cornice returns and a plain frieze. Outside end chimneys delineate the southwest and northeast elevations.

The three bay southeast facade contains a single leaf four-panel wood entrance capped by a four light transom. An early twentieth century pediment embellishes the doorway. Originally, this was the rear of the house, but when the road changed this became the facade. Three second story windows have 2/2 double-hung sashes flanked by early twentieth century shutters. The first story windows are 9/9 double-hung sashes, flanked by early twentieth century shutters and capped by brick jack arch lintels. Foundation openings also have jack arch lintels.

The southwest elevation contains two 2/2 double-hung sashes on the second story and two 9/9 double-hung sashes on the first story. Both are capped by jack arch lintels. Two early twentieth century attic vents are found in the gable field. The one and one-half story shed roof frame addition is visible from this view. It has 6/6 double-hung sashes and a concrete block foundation.

On the northwest elevation, only the frame addition is visible. A screened porch with a deck has been added here. A single leaf door, French doors, and numerous windows are found on the addition.

The northeast elevation is similar to the southwest one except that one first story window is now a door. Shutters flank the second story windows.

Inside, the central passage house was constructed utilizing wooden nails that were cut from cherry timber in the joists, doors, and windows. Much of the interior detailing is extant. Molded and paneled window trim

☒ See continuation sheet

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2 Napier, Richard C., House

embellishes the window and door casings. Simple wainscoting and baseboards are seen throughout the first story. One first floor interior parlor door is a large ten panel door. Fireplaces have pilasters, bed moldings, and mantel shelves. The main staircase has a hexagonal newel post, square balusters, and paneling.

Also located on the property is a non-contributing frame outbuilding.

A circa 1988 garage has been constructed near the house.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G NA

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

circa 1819-1834

Significant Dates

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

Napier, Richard C.

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Richard C. Napier House is significant under criterion B because of its association with Napier, a prominent ironmaster in the region. From the late 1790s until his death in 1834, Napier established several furnaces and forges and had an active role in their management. This is the only known extant building associated with him.

Richard C. Napier was born on November 1, 1773 to Colonel Richard and Mary Wills Napier. The Napier family had iron interests in North Carolina, but in the 1790s the family moved to Tennessee to pursue business activities here.

Richard C. married Charlotte Robertson, the daughter of ironmaster James Robertson, in around 1789. He managed Cumberland Furnace (40DS22), which Robertson owned, from the 1790s until 1804 when it was sold. Sometime around 1805, Tennessee Furnace (40MT383) and Tennessee Forge (40MT Unrecorded #2) were begun by Richard C., although in 1832 he sold these properties and 472 acres. Richard C. also established and operated Laurel Furnace (40DS4) and Turnbull Forge (40CH97) in 1815. He managed these lands until his death in 1834. In 1827 he was one of several ironmasters who endorsed a petition to the state legislature seeking special treatment for ironworks. (See multiple property form) Richard C. may also have owned Carroll furnace, which was located near his house on Bartons Creek.

James Robertson deeded 640 acres on the Big Harpeth River to Charlotte and Richard C. Napier in 1799. Richard C. already owned one forty acre tract of land and by 1810 he owned over 1,000 acres, some of which were probably connected to his furnace operations. Richard Napier, Senior died in 1823 and Richard C. inherited his house. Although it is not known exactly when he moved into the residence, he is believed to have occupied it around 1819. That same year he purchased an additional 280 acres of land on Turnbull Creek. He also owned property near Charlotte in Dickson County. This latter property contained the Wilson ore bank and two stone quarries.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Corlew, Robert. A History of Dickson County, Tennessee.
1956 Nashville, Benson Printing Co.

Daniel, Buena Coleman
1970 "The Iron Industry in Dickson County Tennessee."
Unpublished MA. Thesis, Austin Peay State University,
Clarksville, Tennessee.

Garrett, Jill
1980 Obituaries of Tennessee Newspapers.
Southern Historical Press.

Kelley, Sarah Foster
Children of Nashville. Blue and Gray Press,
Nashville.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings
Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately 6 acres

UTM References

A

1	6
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4	6	7	1	8	0
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4	0	0	8	3	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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☐ See continuation sheet

Charlotte 48NE

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the intersection of Old Highway 48 and the north boundary of parcel #7, the boundary moves south along the east edge of the road approximately 400 feet; thence westerly along the south boundary approximately 600 feet; thence northwesterly approximately 400 feet; thence northeasterly approximately 750 feet to the point of the beginning.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes land historically associated with the house. It is sufficient to protect the historic setting and architectural integrity of the house.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudette Stager, Historic Preservation Specialist
organization Tennessee Historical Commission date February 1988
street & number 701 Broadway telephone (615) 742-6723
city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37219-5237

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2 Napier, Richard C., House

Beginning in 1823, Richard C. opened a store in Nashville that sold kettles, stoves, pots, etc. made at his iron forges. He actively participated in the Dickson County iron industry until his death in 1834.

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Photographs

Section number _____ Page 1

Napier, Richard C., House

Napier, Richard C., House
Old Highway 48
Charlotte vicinity, Dickson County, Tennessee
Photo by: Stephen T. Rogers
Date: March 1987
Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

Southeast facade, facing northwest
#1 of 10

Southwest elevation, facing northeast
#2 of 10

Northwest elevation, facing southeast
#3 of 10

Northeast elevation, facing south
#4 of 10

Interior detail of principal entry
#5 of 10

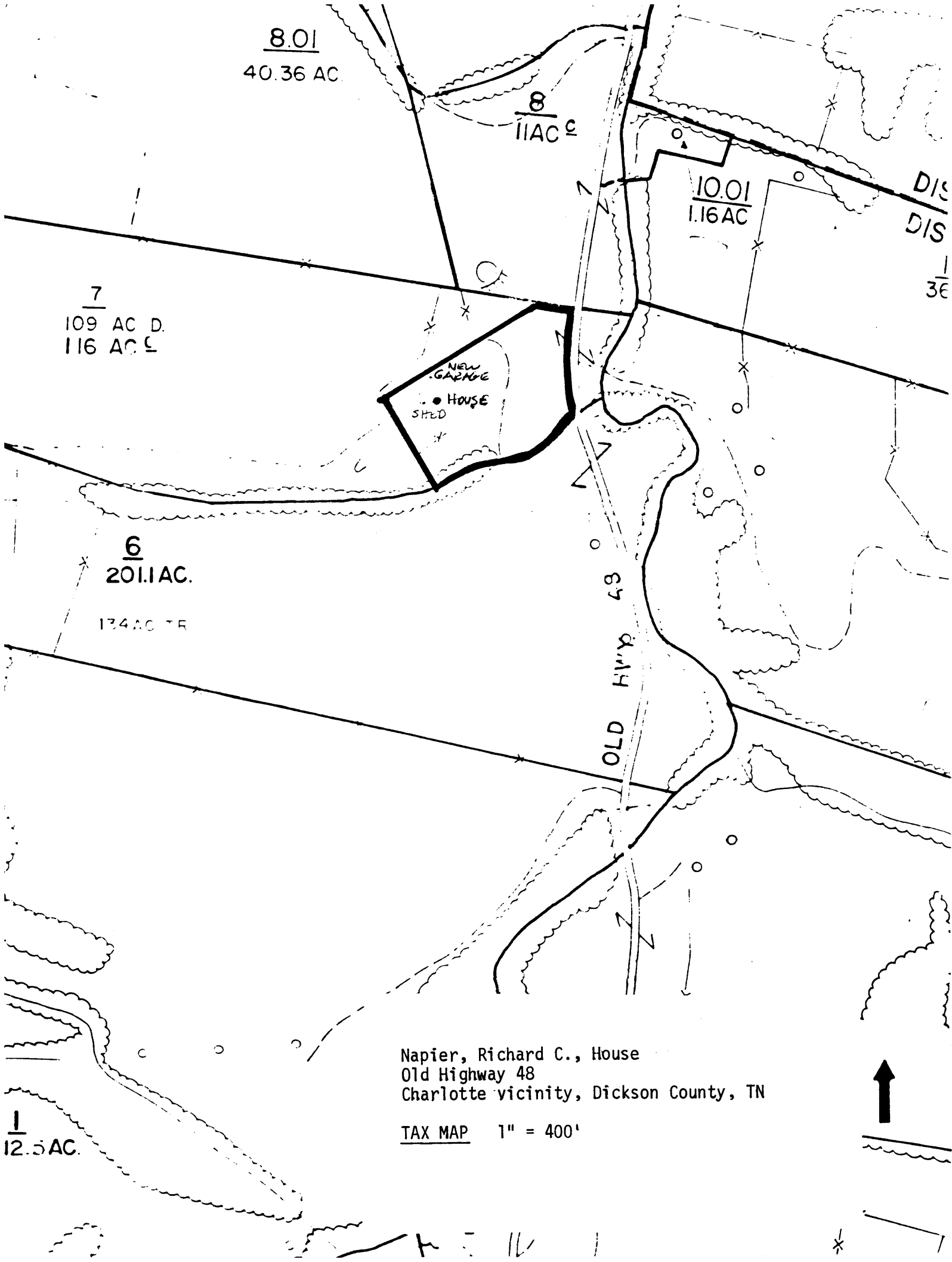
Interior detail of parlor window
#6 of 10

Interior detail of paneled door on main floor
#7 of 10

Interior detail of fireplace
#8 of 10

Interior detail of parlor entry
#9 of 10

Outbuilding
#10 of 10



8.01
40.36 AC

8
11 AC ±

10.01
1.16 AC

DIS
DIS
1
36

7
109 AC D.
116 AC ±

6
201.1 AC.

134 AC TR

OLD HWY 48

Napier, Richard C., House
Old Highway 48
Charlotte vicinity, Dickson County, TN

TAX MAP 1" = 400'

1
12.5 AC.

